



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/457,109	12/07/1999	DARRYL E. RUBIN	03797.81487	7310

28319 7590 04/23/2003

BANNER & WITCOFF LTD.,
ATTORNEYS FOR MICROSOFT
1001 G STREET, N.W.
ELEVENTH STREET
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4597

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, MAIKHANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2176

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application N .	Applicant(s)
	09/457,109	RUBIN ET AL.
	Examiner Maikhahan Nguyen	Art Unit 2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 December 1999 .

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>5-7</u>	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: original application filed 12/07/1999; IDS filed 11/27/2002; 10/24/2002 and 11/13/2002.
2. Claims 1-18 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1 and 4-5 are independent claims.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The references listed in the information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 11/13/2002 have been considered by the examiner in the duplicate copy information disclosure statement filed 10/24/2002.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - a. On page 6-7 of the Specification, Applicant is suggested to use the preferable arrangement of the Specification as provided in 37 CFR 1.77 (see MPEP 608.01 (a) Arrangement of Application) and deleting “Table of Contents...”.
 - b. Referring to the US Patent Applications cited in the Specification on page 37, lines 8-18, page 38, lines 18-23, and page 40, lines 5-9, Applicant is suggested to

insert related applications serial numbers and the status of each application, if allowed or in patent prosecution.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Koppolu et al.** (U.S. 6,460,058 – filed 12/1996) in view of **Finesth et al.** (U.S. 6,271,840 – filed 09/1997).

As to independent claim 1, Koppolu discloses a computer user interface (user interface; col. 9, lines 8-10) comprising:

- a plurality of document pages (the HTML documents; col.1, lines 65-67);
- at least one of the document pages including at least one link (the HTML documents can contain “hyperlinks” ... to another HTML document; col.1, lines 65-67).

Koppolu does teach at least one of the links having a property (properties of the hyperlink object; col. 86, lines 1-20), but is silent on “at least one of the links having a property that indicates a display format for at least a respective one of the links and the

display format of the at least one respective link being based on the property indicating the display format.”

Finseth teaches at least one of the links having a property that indicates a display format for at least a respective one of the links and the display format of the at least one respective link being based on the property indicating the display format (format information regarding the web pages present at the URLs; Abstract).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Finseth with Koppolu because it would have provided the enhanced capability for allowing the user to quickly and readily scan the presentation at the URL web pages or other data present.

As to dependent claim 2, Koppolu does not explicitly teach the display format of the at least one respective link is based upon an examination of the content of the at least one respective link’s target document.

Finseth teaches teach the display format of the at least one respective link is based upon an examination of the content of the at least one respective link’s target document (fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Finseth with Koppolu because it would have provided the enhanced capability for allowing the user to quickly and readily scan the presentation at the URL web pages or other data present.

As to dependent claim 3, Koppolu discloses at least one of the links has a property indicating the display update latency of the at least one of the links (fig.10).

As to independent claim 4, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated herein in full.

However, claim 4 further recites:

- in response to activation of a first link by user; navigating to a document page

and display the document page in a first display format; and

- in response to activation of a second link by user, the second link being different than the first link and linking the same page linked to by the first link, navigating to the link-to document page and display the document page in a second display format, the second display format being different than the first display format .

Koppolu discloses:

- in response to activation of a first link by user; navigating to a document page

and display the document page in a first display format (the HTML documents can

contain “hyperlinks” ...to another HTML document on the World Wide Web; col.1,

lines 65-67); and

- in response to activation of a second link by user, the second link being different

than the first link and linking the same page linked to by the first link, navigating to the

link-to document page and display the document page in a second display format, the

second display format being different than the first display format (the HTML documents

can contain “hyperlinks” ...to another HTML document... to another part of the same

document; col.1, line 65- col.2, lines 8).

Independent claim 5 is directed to a computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for implementing the computer user interface of claim 1, and is rejected under the same rationale.

As to dependent claim 6, Koppolu discloses displaying, in a display frame in a linked-from document page, information about a linked-to document (fig. 2).

As to dependent claim 7, Koppolu discloses displaying, in a display frame in a linked-from document page, content of a linked to document (the browser provides the document display area 72 for displaying the document; col.9, lines 1-10).

As to dependent claim 8, Koppolu discloses updating the display of the linked-to content at a rate specified by a property of the link linking the linked-from and linked-to document pages (col.9, lines 1-10).

As to dependent claim 9, Koppolu discloses using heuristics to automatically provide most-likely-to-use links to additional material (the drop down button 499 operates to display a list of most recently navigated documents; col.10, lines 10-29).

As to dependent claim 10, Koppolu discloses providing at least one of the most-likely-to-use links based upon documents previously navigated to by the user (navigation state information... previously navigated documents; col.2, lines 9-18).

As to dependent claim 11, Koppolu discloses providing at least one of the most-likely-to-use links based upon documents having subject matter similar to a document being viewed by the user (col.9, lines 11-56).

As to dependent claim 12, Koppolu discloses providing at least one of the most-likely-to-use links based upon documents created by an author who is the same as the author of a document being viewed by the user (col.9, lines 11-56).

As to dependent claim 13, Koppolu discloses providing at least one of the most-likely-to-use links based upon documents created during a first time period

substantially the same as a time period during which a document being viewed by the user was created (col.9, lines 11-56).

As to dependent claim 14, Koppolu discloses using heuristics to automatically provide a set of command choices the user (selecting a customize menu command; col.10, lines 30-41).

As to dependent claim 15, Koppolu discloses including at least one command in the set of command choices based upon analysis of the user's current document context (col.10, lines 3-41).

As to dependent claim 16, Koppolu discloses including at least one command in the set of command choices based upon a set of commands recently invoked by the user (col.10, lines 30-41).

As to dependent claim 17, Koppolu discloses including at least one command in the set of command choices based upon commands the user has invoked most frequently in the past from contexts substantially the same as the user's current context (col.10, lines 30-41).

As to dependent claim 18, Koppolu discloses displaying at least one link within an e-mail message document page, the associated link, upon activation, causing command code to be executed to perform an operation selected from the group consisting of: reply, reply to all, forward, and delete (col.39, lines 33-53).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kanerva et al. U.S Patent No. 6,122,649 issued dated: Sep.19, 2000

Zellweger et al. U.S Patent No. 6,279,005 issued dated: Aug. 21, 2001

Judson U.S Patent No. 5,572,643 issued dated: Nov. 5, 1996

Baldwin U.S Patent No. 5,877,757 issued dated: Mar.2, 1999

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maikhahan Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 306-0092. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R Herndon can be reached on (703) 308-5186. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-5403 for regular communications and (703) 308-5403 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

Contact Information:

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Or fax to:

AFTER-FINAL faxes must be signed and sent to (703) 746-7238.

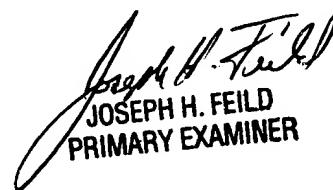
Art Unit: 2176

OFFICIAL faxes must be signed and sent to (703) 746-7239.
NON OFFICIAL faxes should be sent to (703) 746-7240.

All OFFICIAL faxes will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. The date of entry will correspond to the actual FAX reception date unless that date is a Saturday, Sunday, or a Federal Holiday within the District of Columbia, in which case the official date of receipt will be the next business day. The application file will be promptly forwarded to the Examiner unless the application file must be sent to another area of the Office, e.g., Finance Division for fee charging, etc.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist). All hand-delivered responses will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. Please do not hand deliver responses directly to the Examiner.

Maikhanh Nguyen
April 18, 2003



JOSEPH H. FEILD
PRIMARY EXAMINER